

COMMUNITY GROUP STUDY GUIDE**Do Not Conform**
*Relationships***REVIEW**

In Romans 12:2 the Apostle Paul commands us “to not be conformed to this world.” Why? Because we are tempted to do this very thing, to be pressed into the mold of our culture’s thinking. Our hearts tempt us. The world around tempts us. But, we are to be motivated by a greater “temptation” – that of the world to come.

APPLY // LUKE 12:13-21

1. How are we, like the rich man, tempted to believe that life is found in the abundance of possessions? What’s the danger in thinking that life is found in stuff?
2. What types of “larger barns” are we tempted toward today?
3. What lies does these “large barns” tell us? Which lie about money are you most tempted to believe?
4. Notice the rich man’s posture is toward himself (e.g. “thought to himself,” “I will say to my soul,” “lays up treasure for himself.”). How can we evaluate where this same thought process is present in our hearts? What are some questions we can ask ourselves and each other to discern sinful temptations toward possessions?
5. What are some practical ways we can counteract the lie that “larger barns” on earth will bring us greater happiness and security?
6. What are some practical ways we can be “rich toward God”?

STUDY // ROMANS 12:3-21

Study the passage of Scripture aiming to faithfully interpret and apply what you observe. Remember we study God’s word not just to increase our knowledge, but to increase our trust in and treasuring of Jesus Christ.

1. Read Romans 12:1-21.
2. What themes do you notice about Paul’s instructions in verses 3-21?
3. What does it mean to “think of [ourselves] more highly than [we] ought to think”? Why does this destroy relationships?
4. What does it mean to “think with sober judgment”? How does this build relationships?
5. What is Paul getting at when he references, “each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned”? How does this lead to grace based relationship that seek to serve not consumer based relationships that seek to gain?
6. Notice Paul’s analogy of many members of one body. How does this inform our relationships inside the church body? How have you seen this at work at Restoration?
7. How do Paul’s instructions in verses 9-21 inform our relationships outside of the church body?
8. How can we be gracious toward those who are unable or unwilling to show us grace?

- General Bible study questions:
 - What does this passage teach me about the character of God?
 - What does this passage teach me about myself and my need for God?
 - How does this passage teach me that God has met my needs in the person and work of Jesus Christ?
 - How should I respond with my affections and my actions?

ACCOUNTABILITY

Relationships developed and deepened during accountability provide regular encouragement, and when necessary admonition, to spur each other on to delight in the supremacy of Jesus Christ. Ask one another heart-probing, clarifying questions, and help each other apply the gospel to your lives.

QUESTION: Where are you tempted to build “larger barns” rather than being “rich toward God”?